Vulgar Programmes on Doordarshan

† 914. SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that superstitious, violent and vulgar love scenes are being telecast for various reasons by the electronic media in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these telecasts are making impact on innocent children and immature adults;

(c) if so, Government's reaction in this regard; and

(d) the action being taken by Government to ban such telecasts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (d) Doordarshan and AIR's programmes are previewed before telecast/broadcast to ensure their complaince with the Programme Code, which, inter-alia, lays down that any excessive violence or vulgarity and superstitions, which may have adverse effect on the viewers should not be telecasted/broadcasted. Action on complaints about content of private channels, being retransmitted through cable networks, can be taken by authorised/specified officers notified by State Government/UTs under the Cable Television Network (Regulation) Act, 1995.

In exceptional cases, Government of India also takes action as has been done in the case of Channel TB-6 whereby its transmission has been prohibited through cable networks as its programmes contain obscene matters affecting public morality.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.